

**SENATE—Thursday, September 14, 2000**

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Father Damian Zuerlein, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Omaha, NE.

**PRAYER**

The guest Chaplain, Father Damian Zuerlein, offered the following prayer:

In the presence of the God who called the universe into being we pray:

God of infinite wisdom and constant compassion, we call on Your Spirit to open our hearts to hear You. We know that You always accompany us no matter where our journeys lead. For You are the God not only of this moment; You are the God of forever. Today may Your love grace the Members of the United States Senate, their staffs, and all who work with them.

O God, may they help complete the work You have begun in our country. May a spirit of mercy, wisdom, and gentleness flow through them that will bring healing where there is hurt, peace where there is violence, justice where there is alienation, hope where there is despair, and beginnings where there are dead ends.

Waken in them, O God, gratitude for Your gifts, mystery in the mundane, welcome for strangers, love for every living thing, praise for You. May they always walk with God, live in God, and remain with God this day and forever. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. I thank the Chair.

**FATHER DAMIAN ZUERLEIN**

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, first, before we get on to today's schedule, I wish to commend my friend, the guest Chaplain, this morning. Father Damian is extended best wishes and thanks from this body. Father Damian and I share a few things in common. One is we graduated from the same high

school just a few years apart—actually, Mr. President, many years apart. Father Damian had the unenviable task of trying to redefine the standards that my brothers and I debated at St. Bonaventure High School and Scotus High School in Columbus, NE—not an easy task but one that he achieved with great dignity and success.

We are very proud of Father Damian for many reasons. He is pastor of two Catholic parishes in Omaha—St. Agnes and Our Lady of Guadalupe in south Omaha.

Mr. President, you know a little bit about ethnic areas, coming from Colorado. Father Damian has done as much to bring the Hispanic community of Nebraska—indeed, middle America—together as any one individual I have known in the last few years, and he has done it with remarkable ability, with common sense and truth. People respect him not just because he wears the Lord's uniform but because he has done it the right way; he brings respect and dignity to all whom he touches; he conveys that as he deals with people. We are very proud of what he has been able to accomplish in our community and across the Midwest, aside from being nationally recognized for his achievements with many recognitions and honors. We are very proud to have him among us this morning.

And again, on a personal note, it is wonderful to see Father Damian after making the trek to Washington. Under the able tutelage of our resident Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie, I know he has learned much this morning.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will my friend from Nebraska yield for a moment?

Mr. HAGEL. Yes.

Mr. REID. I think it is appropriate to say in front of the good priest that people in Nebraska are well served by the two Senators who come from Nebraska. I am sure he is very proud of the work Senator HAGEL and Senator KERREY perform for Nebraska in the Senate.

Mr. HAGEL. I thank the Senator. As a matter of fact, as the Senator knows, there was a little reception and party for my distinguished senior colleague, Senator KERREY of Nebraska, last night. Father Damian was able to participate and extend his long arm of justice and spiritual guidance over that gathering, even in the midst of some bandits who attended. The real coup de grace of last night's event was the distinguished senior Senator from New York toasting our colleague, Senator KERREY—an old Navy toast. I observed that I never believed that serving in the Navy was a particular virtue, but

nonetheless he was toasted with the Senator's eloquent remarks.

I thank the Senator.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4444, the China PNTR legislation. Under a previous agreement, there are 10 amendments remaining for debate. Those Senators who have amendments on the list are encouraged to work with the bill managers on a time to complete debate on their amendments. Senators can expect votes on amendments to occur throughout today's session. Also, under the agreement, there are up to 6 hours of general debate remaining on the bill. It is hoped that action can be completed on this important trade bill by late this week or early next week.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

**TO AUTHORIZE EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 4444, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4444) to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China, and to establish a framework for relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

Pending:

Wellstone amendment No. 4118, to require that the President certify to Congress that the People's Republic of China has taken certain actions with respect to ensuring human rights protection.

Wellstone amendment No. 4121, to strengthen the rights of workers to associate, organize and strike.

Smith (of N.H.) amendment No. 4129, to require that the Congressional-Executive Commission monitor the cooperation of the People's Republic of China with respect to POW/MIA issues, improvement in the areas of forced abortions, slave labor, and organ harvesting (divisions 1 thru 5).

Hollings amendment No. 4134, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to require corporations to disclose foreign investment-related information in 10-K reports.

Hollings amendment No. 4135, to authorize and request the President to report to the